FEMA National Watch Center

Daily Operations Briefing

Friday, September 27, 2024 8:30 a.m. ET



National Current Ops / Monitoring

New Significant Incidents / Ongoing Ops

Tropical Storm Helene – Southeast

Hazard Monitoring

- Excessive Rainfall/Flash Flooding Southeast
- Tropical Activity:
 - Atlantic:
 - Tropical Storm Helene
 - Hurricane Isaac
 - Disturbance 1: High (90%)
 - Disturbance 2: Low (30%)
 - Disturbance 3: Low (20%)
 - Eastern Pacific:
 - Tropical Storm John
 - Western Pacific:
 - Tropical Storm Jebi

Disaster Declaration Activity

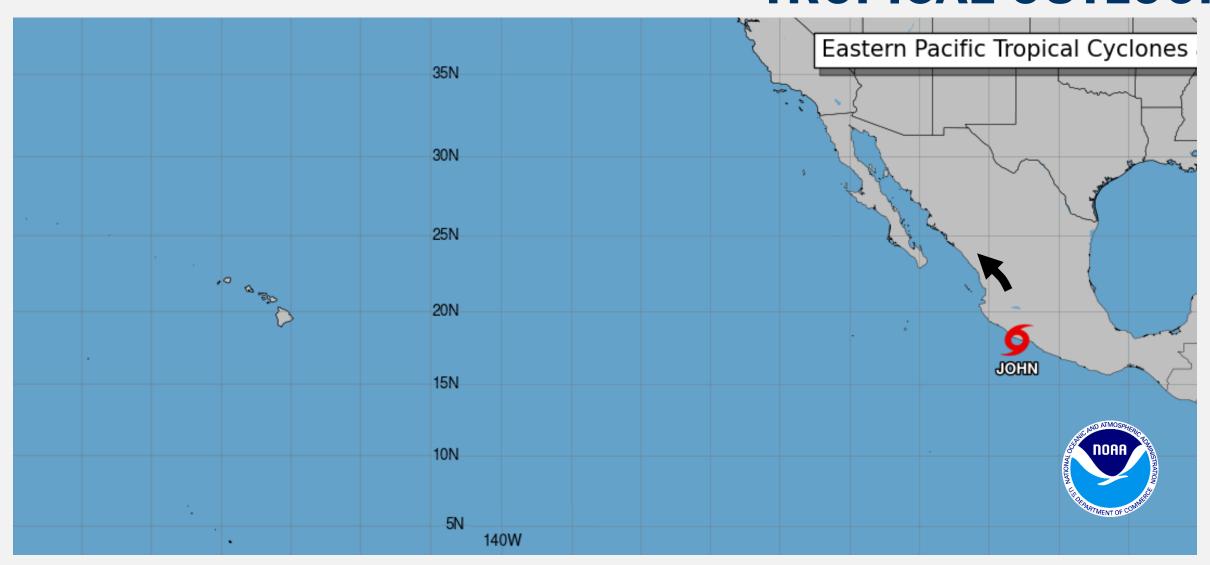
- Approval: Emergency Declaration AL, GA, NC, SC
- Approval: Major Disaster Declaration VT
- Two Amendments issued

Event Monitoring

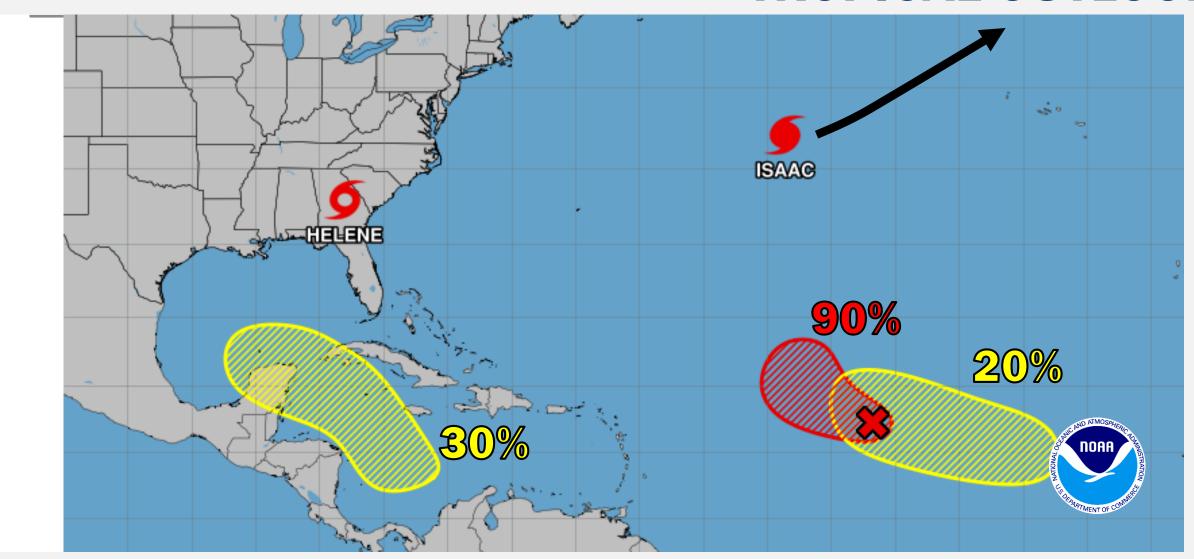
79th United Nations General Assembly – NY



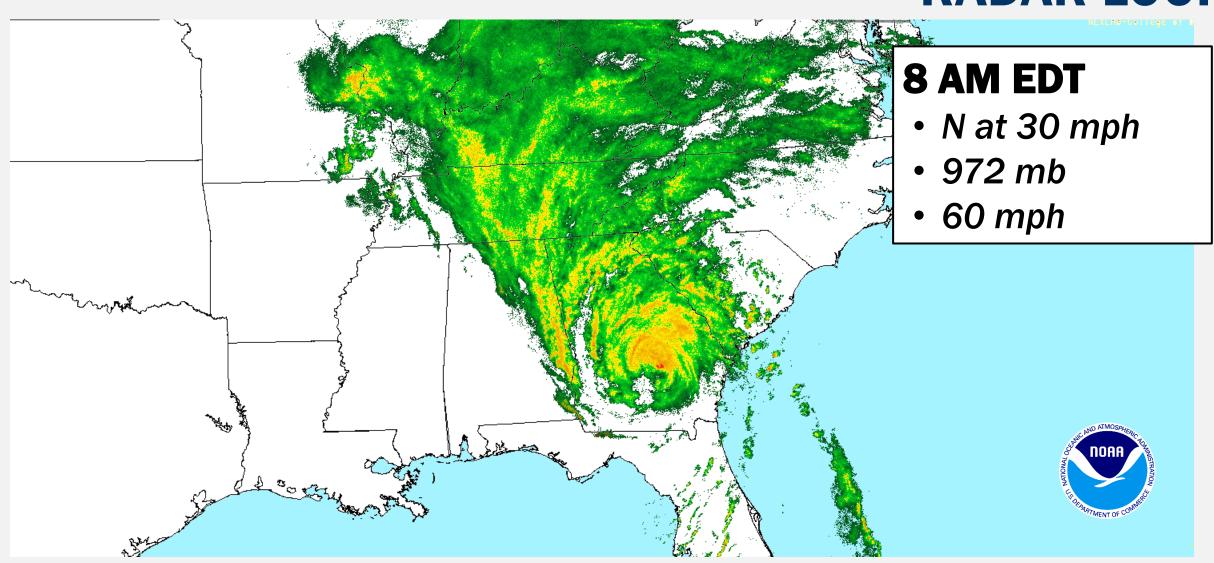
Pacific Overview TROPICAL OUTLOOK



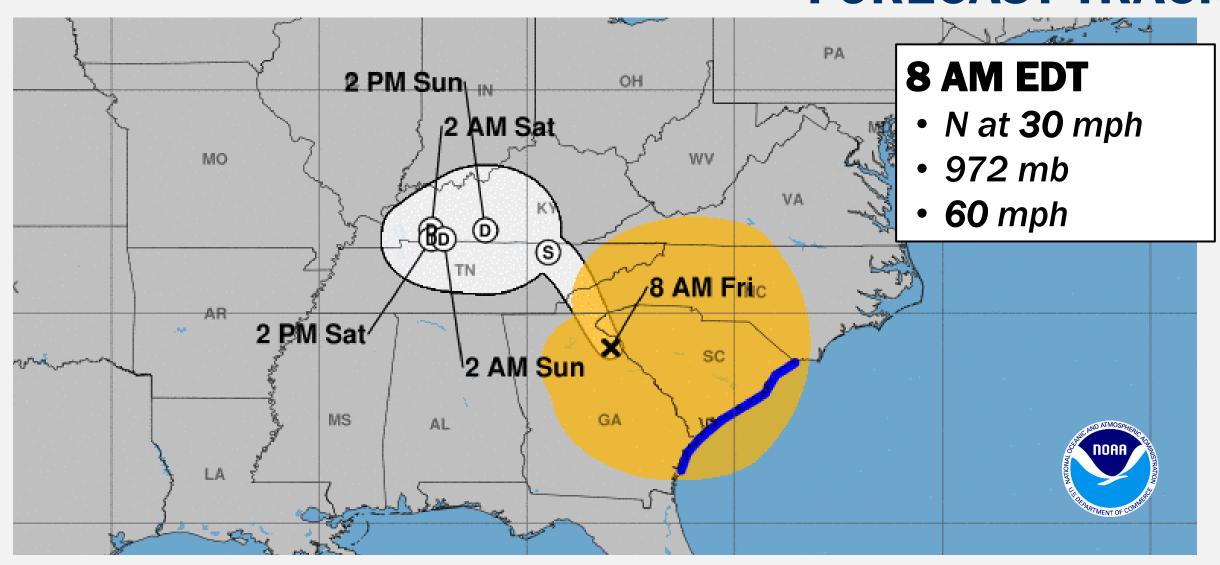
Atlantic Overview TROPICAL OUTLOOK



Tropical Storm Helene RADAR LOOP



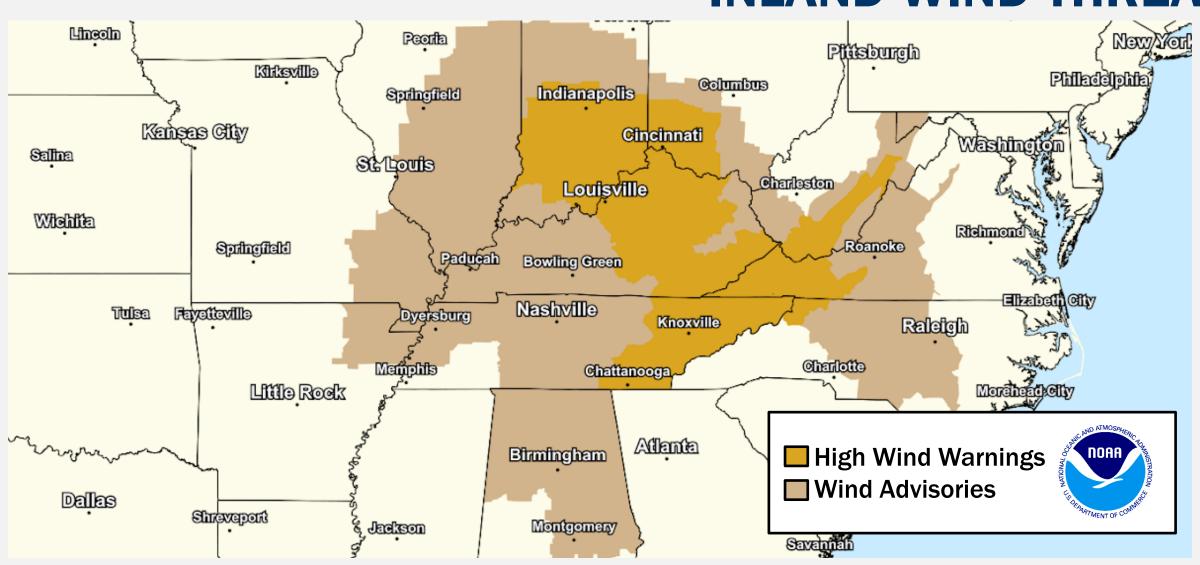
Tropical Storm Helene FORECAST TRACK



Tropical Storm Helene TROPICAL STORM WARNINGS



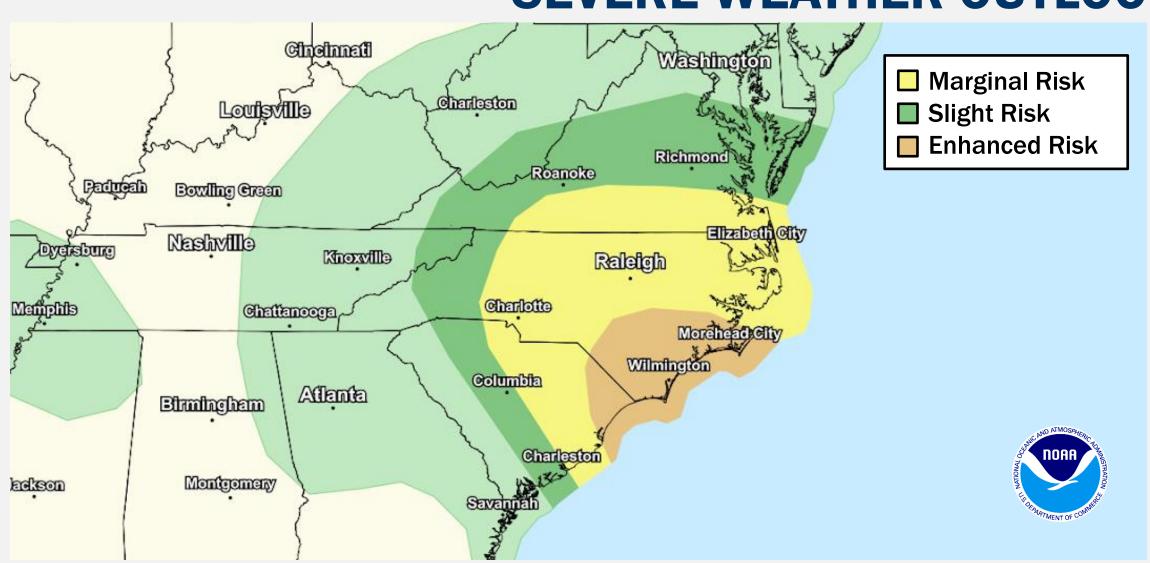
Tropical Storm Helene INLAND WIND THREAT



Tropical Storm Helene PEAK STORM SURGE FORECAST



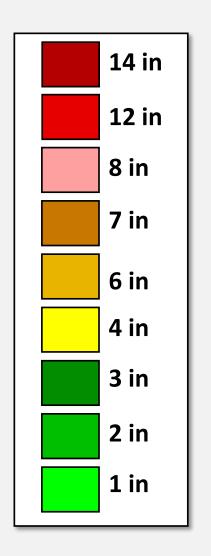
Tropical Storm Helene SEVERE WEATHER OUTLOOK

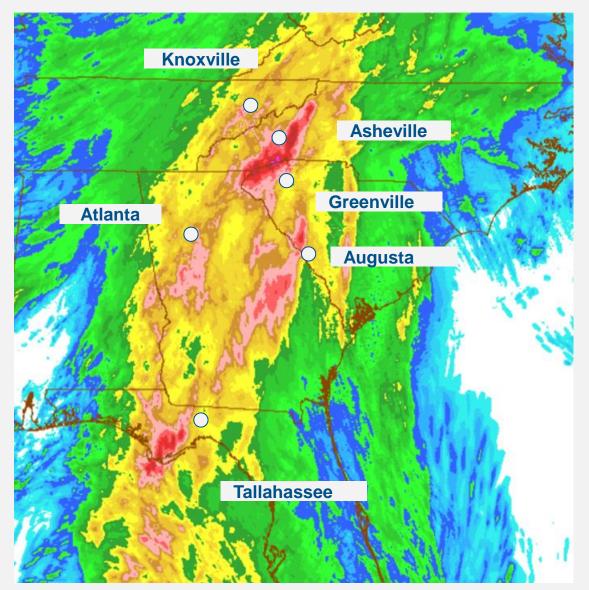


Helene

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OBSERVED PRECIPITATION last 72 hours (preliminary)

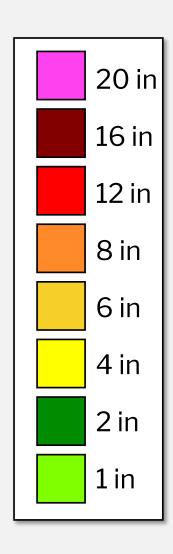


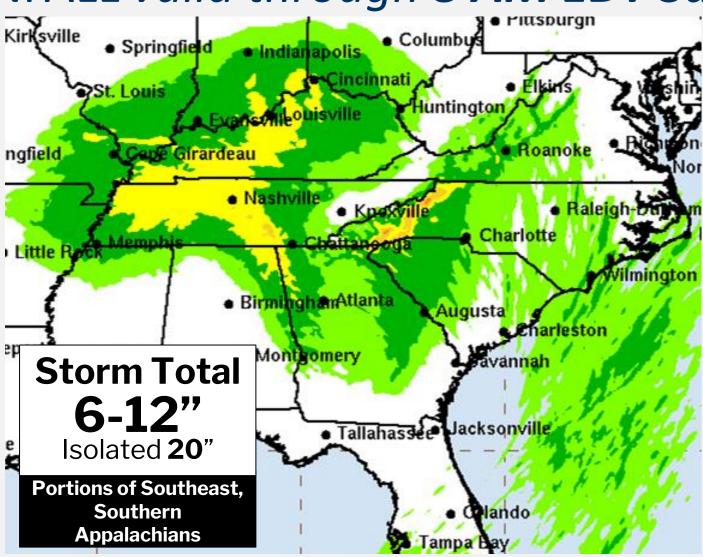


Through 5 AM EDT



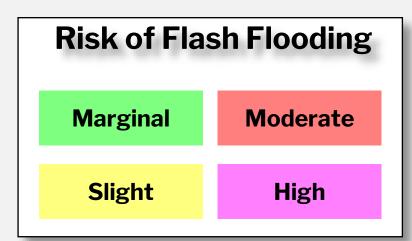
2 DAY RAINFALL valid through 8 AM EDT Sunday

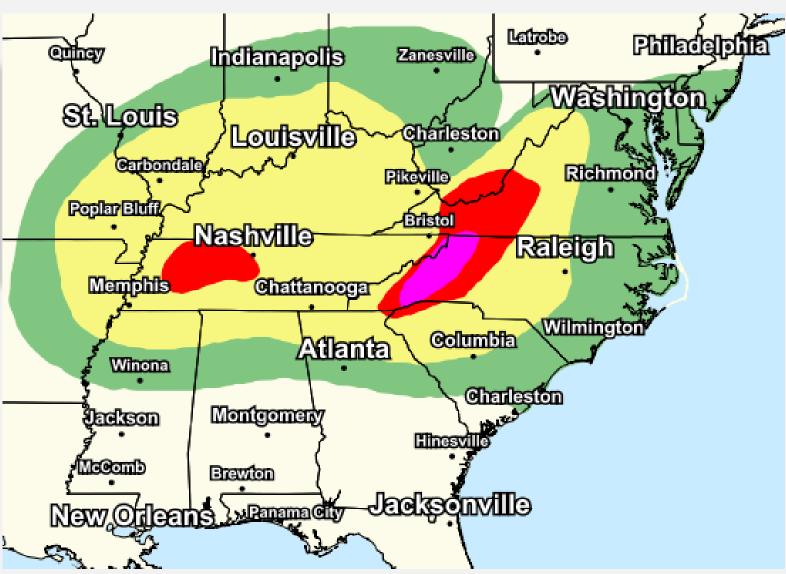




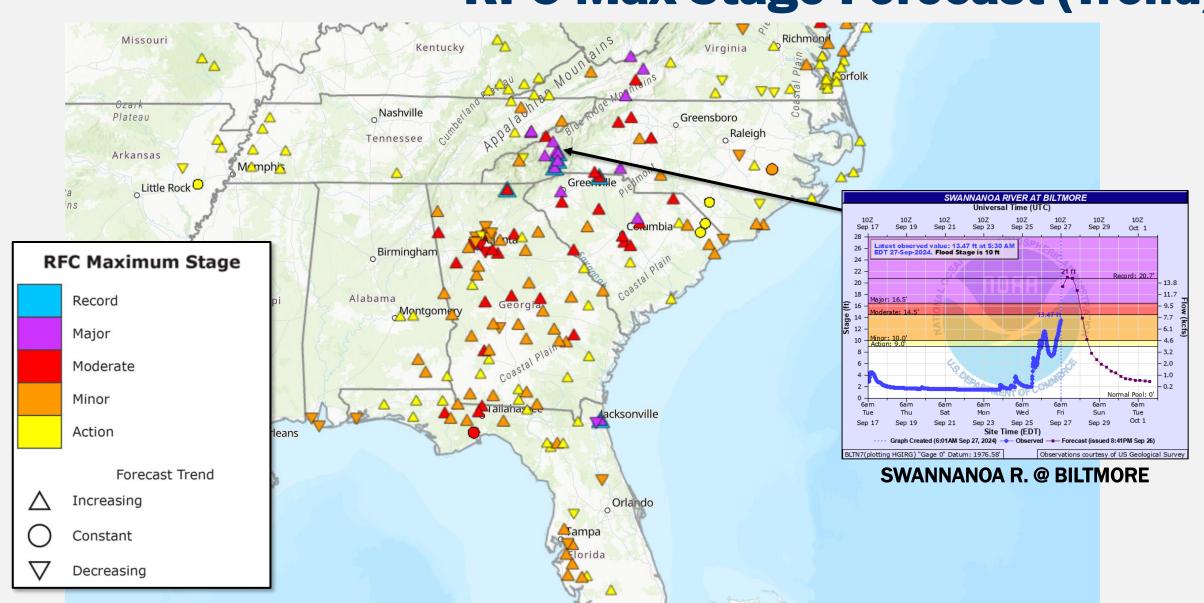
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FLASH FLOOD RISK





Tropical Storm Helene RFC Max Stage Forecast (Trend)





Record Flooding Forecast in Asheville, NC Friday, September 27, 2024

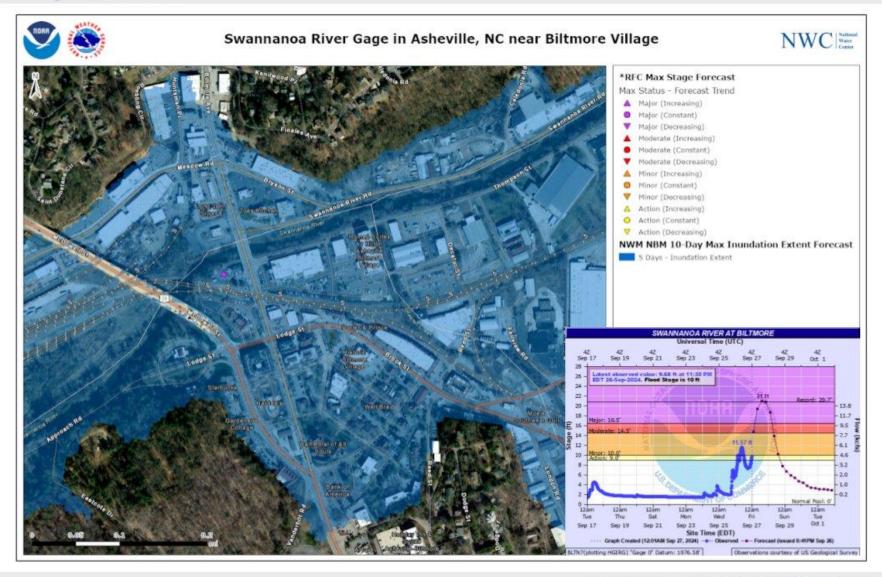
Life Threatening Flooding Possible

Key Messages

- → Record flooding is forecast along the Swannanoa River
- → Life threatening flooding may be possible
- → Flood inundation mapping suggests widespread flooding in the Biltmore Village area of Asheville (shown in blue in the image on the right)
- → To escape rising water, take the shortest path to higher ground.



→ Flooding is ongoing and expected to crest Friday evening at record stage







Significant Flooding Possible in Bakersfield, NC

Friday, September 27, 2024 2:15 AM EDT

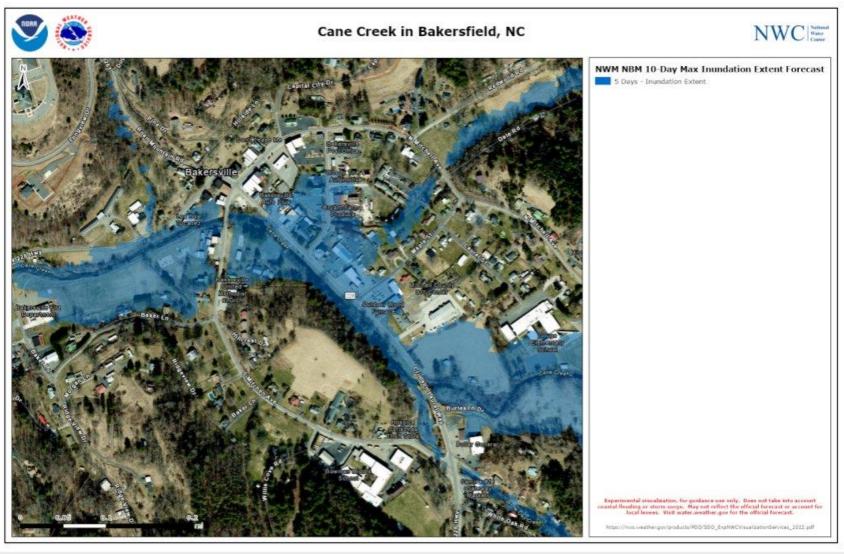
Life Threatening Flooding Possible Through Today

Key Messages

- → Significant, life threatening is possible today in Bakersfield.
- → Flood inundation mapping suggests significant flooding is possible along Cane Creek (shown in blue in the image on the right).
- → To escape rising water, take the shortest path to higher ground.
- → Turn Around, Don't Drown!



Flooding may begin at any time, peaking this evening.





Tropical Storm Helene - Southeast



Situation: Helene made landfall as a Cat-4 in the Florida Big Bend region and has weakened to a Tropical Storm.

Lifelines: (FEMA RIV SLB, as of 6:00 p.m. ET, Sep 26)

Safety & Security:

- FL: 20 (+6) counties with mandatory evacuations;
- 7 (-3) counties with voluntary evacuations
- o K-12 Schools: 68 (+49) Closed on 09/26.
- GA: Mandatory evacuations: Camden Co.
- AL: 22 school systems are closed or delayed on 9/26

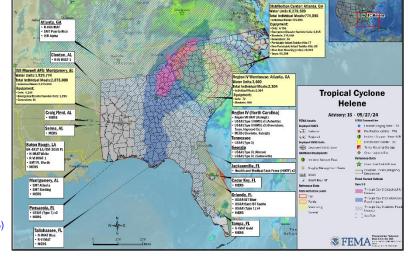
Food, Hydration, Shelter: (FEMA HQ Mass Care, Open Shelter Report 7 a.m. ET)

- FL: 98 (-11) Shelters with overnight population of 8,431 (-111)
- GA: 23 Shelters with overnight population of 797
- NC: 6 Shelters with overnight population of 10

Energy: (EAGLE-I, as of 6:00 a.m. ET)

- FL: 1.2M (11%) power outages reported
- GA: 852K (18%) power outages reported
- NC: 92K (2%) power outages reported
- SC: 355K (12%) power outages reported
- GA: 72 Hour estimate of peak customer power outages 1,094,645 (25%) Transportation:
- AL: Port of Mobile at Port Condition X-RAY; Port of Gulfport and Pascagoula at Port Condition NORMAL
- FL: Port of Key West is closed, Fort Myers up to Panama City are at Port Condition YANKEE; Ports of Pensacola, and parts of Jacksonville are at Port Condition X-RAY
 - Tallahassee, Tampa, and St. Pete-Clearwater International Airports are closed
- GA: Ports of Savannah and Brunswick report condition YANKEE
- Major airports including Hartsfield-Jackson International, Savannah Hilton Head International, and Augusta Regional Airport remain open and are monitoring the storm





State / Tribal:

- AL: SEOC at Full Activation (TC Helene)
 - Poarch Band of Creek Indians are monitoring; no reported requests for assistance
 - EM Declaration request submitted 9/25
- FL: SEOC at Full Activation (TC Helene)
 - Gov declared State of Emergency for 41 counties
 - Emergency Declaration (3615-EM) approved
- Seminole Tribe and Miccosukee Tribe of Indians of Florida are monitoring; no reported request for assistance
- GA: SEOC at Full Activation (TC Helene)
- Gov declared a State of Emergency
- o FEMA-3616-EM-GA, 9/26
- NC: SEOC at Full Activation (TC Helene)
- Gov declared a State of Emergency
- FEMA-3617-EM-NC approved

FEMA Response:

- FEMA RIV:
- o RWC is Monitoring; RRCC activated to Level II with all ESFs
- Region IV IMAT-1 deployed to AL SEOC
- HO:
- NWC is Monitoring; NRCC is at Level I
- N-IMAT Blue deployed to FL SEOC; Gold deployed to Tampa, FL
- FEMA Regions VII IMAT deployed to Raleigh, NC
- FEMA Region VIII IMAT deployed to Atlanta, GA Logistics
- o SMT Atlanta and SMT Sterling deployed to Montgomery, AL
- SMT Puerto Rico deployed to Atlanta, GA
- o 6 US&R NIMS Type 1 Task Forces deployed to FL
- 2 US&R NIMS Type 2 Task Forces deployed to GA
- 1 US&R NIMS Type 1 and 3 Type 3 Task Forces deployed to NC
- 2 US&R NIMS Type 3 Task Forces deployed to TN
- o Incident Support Team (IST) Blue deployed to Orlando, FL

MERS

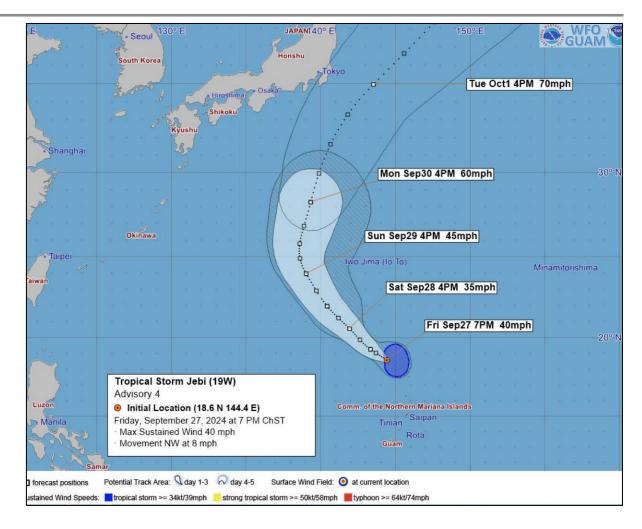
- MERS deployed to Tallahassee, FL, Orlando, FL, Tampa, FL, Maxwell AFB, Montgomery, AL
- Additional MERS assets enroute to Pensacola, FL, and Raleigh, NC
- Additional MERS teams on standby to support US&R and operations in SC and GA

The NWC will continue to monitor in coordination with Region IV, with continued reporting twice daily in the FEMA National Situation Report (5:00 p.m./3:00 a.m. ET) and the FEMA Daily Operations Briefing (8:30 a.m. ET).

Tropical Storm Jebi – West Pacific

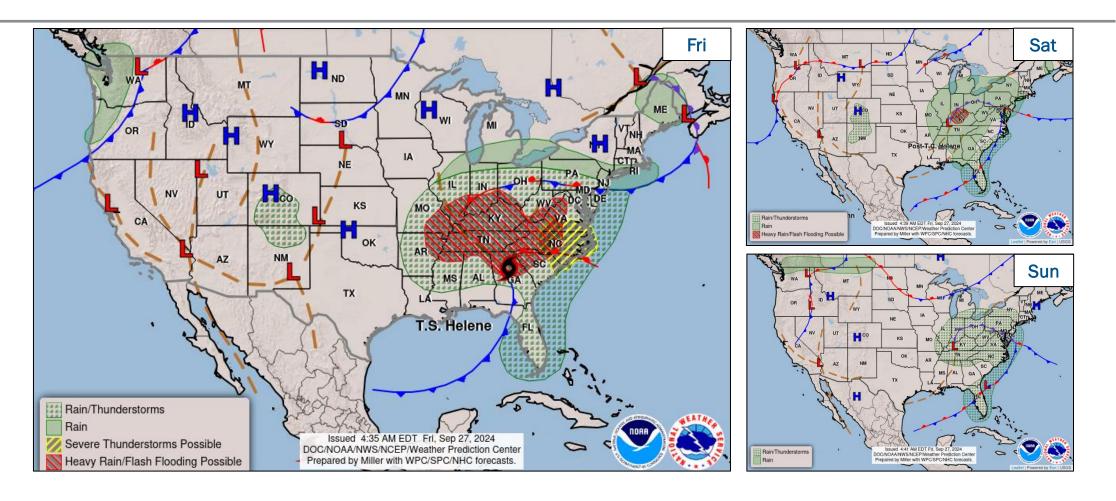
Situation: (Advisory #4, as of 5:00 a.m. ET)

- Located 355 miles N of Guam
- Moving NW at 8 mph
- Max sustained wind 40 mph
- Tropical storm force winds extend outward from the center up to 105 miles
- Tropical Storm conditions are expected to continue through tonight as it continues to move away from the northern Mariana Islands





National Weather Forecast



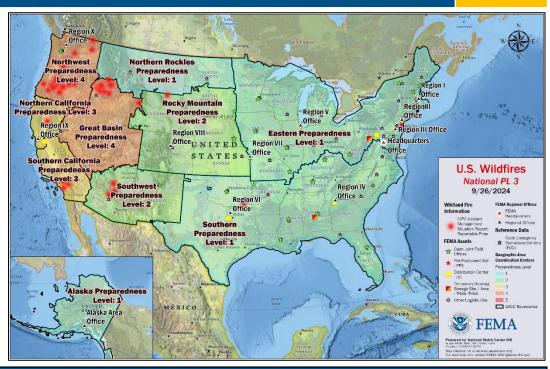


National Fire Activity (as of Sep 26)

National Preparedness Level

PL₃

Initial Attack Activity (24-hour period)	Light (50 fires)
New large fires:	2
Large fires contained:	0
Uncontained large fires:	34
Cumulative Acres Burned	7,877,684
Total Responders	10,413
Type 1 IMTs deployed	1
Complex IMTs deployed	11 of 41



Preparedness Levels Legend						
PL1	Minimal fire activity; many resources available					
PL 2	Large wildland fires burning throughout country; resources mobilized from other areas					
PL3	Wildfire activity ongoing throughout 25% of country; National Interagency Coordination Center (NICC) sets priorities, allocates resources, and mobilizes assets at national level					
PL 4	High levels of fire activity and areas are competing for firefighting resources; 60% of the nation's wildland firefighting resources committed					
PL5	Extremely high levels of fire activity; 80% of nation's firefighting resources committed					

FEMA Common Operating Picture

Virtual Joint Field Offices

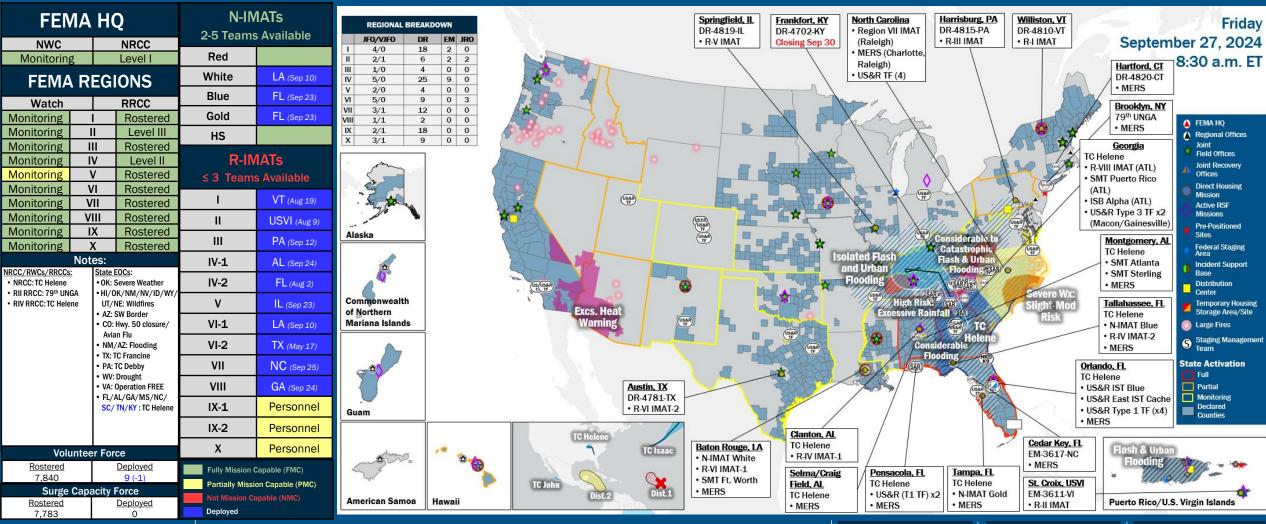
107+13 Disasters

Declarations

Direct Housing RSF-Supported Missions

Disasters

Joint Recovery **Offices**



Offices

IM Workforce

13.642 (-14) Assigned 4,769 (-40) Unavailable 6.976 (+56) Deployed

14% / 1,897 (-30) Available

IM Cadre Availability

17 Cadres ≤ 25% Availability

Civil Rights: 23 % (37/163); Disability Integration: 17% (7/42); Disaster Survivor Assistance 14% (161/1,182); External Affairs: 8% (40/516); Environmental Planning and Historic Preservation: 12% (96/814); Field Leadership: 12% (18/145); Financial Management: 22% (50/229); Hazard Mitigation: 7% (87/1.180); Human Resources: 8% (14/172); Individual Assistance: 7% (181/2,516); Information Technology: 17% (110/654); Logistics: 11% (169/1,597); Operations: 8% (28/336); Public Assistance: 14% (315/2,260); Planning: 5% (21/445); Safety: 4% (4/93); Security 25% (34/135)

MERS

36 Assigned 0 Unavailable

11 (+2) Deployed

25 (-2) Available

US&R

28 Assigned 3 Unavailable 14 Deployed

11 Available

42 (33 FCOR) Deployed

1 Available

52 Assigned

9 Unavailable

FCO

Joint Preliminary Damage Assessments

Bogien State /		Incident	IA	Number of Count	Start - End	
Region Location	PA		Requested	Complete	Start – Eriu	
		CT Severe Storms & Flooding Aug 18-19	IA	3	3	8/29 - 9/5
	PA		3	1 (+1)	9/9 – TBD	
10.7	N/ N/O	Tropical Cyclone Debby	IA	0	0	N/A
IV NC	Aug 5-19	PA	1	0	9/23 - TBD	
\/II	Kickapoo Severe Storms Tribe Aug 15-28	Severe Storms	IA	0	0	N/A
VII Tribe		PA	1	0	9/26 - TBD	
	IV OA	CA Shiprock Flooding Aug 25	IA	1	0	10/7 - TBD
IX CA	CA		PA	1	0	10/7 – TBD



Declaration Approval – Alabama

Declaration Type: Emergency Declaration – FEMA-3618-EM-AL

Date Requested: Sep 25

Date Approved: Sep 26 Incident: Hurricane Helene

Incident Period: Sep 22, and continuing

Provides:

PA: 34 counties

FCO: Keith Denning







Declaration Approval – Georgia

Declaration Type: Emergency Declaration – FEMA-3616-EM-GA

Date Requested: Sep 25

Date Approved: Sep 26 Incident: Hurricane Helene

Incident Period: Sep 24, and continuing

Provides:

PA: 159 counties

FCO: Kevin A. Wallace, Sr.







Declaration Approval – North Carolina

Declaration Type: Emergency Declaration – FEMA-3617-EM-NC

Date Requested: Sep 25

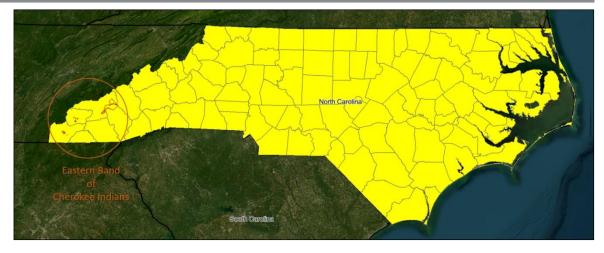
Date Approved: Sep 26 Incident: Hurricane Helene

Incident Period: Sep 25, and continuing

Provides:

PA: 100 counties and the Eastern Band of Cherokee Indians

FCO: E. Craig Levy, Sr.



PA



Declaration Approval – South Carolina

Declaration Type: Emergency Declaration – FEMA-3619-EM-SC

Date Requested: Sep 26

Date Approved: Sep 26 Incident: Hurricane Helene

Incident Period: September 25 and continuing

Requested:

PA: Public Assistance for 46 counties

FCO: Brett H. Howard



PA





Declaration Approval – Vermont

Declaration Type: Major Disaster Declaration – FEMA-4826-DR-VT

Date Requested: Aug 28

Date Approved: Sep 26

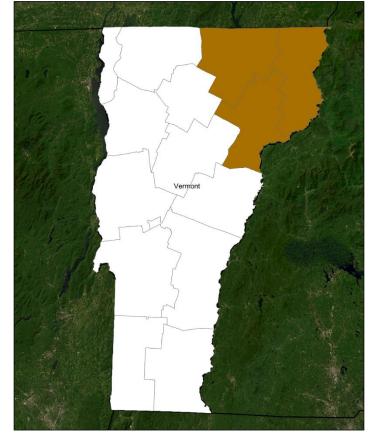
Incident: Severe Storms, Flooding, Landslides, and Mudslides

Incident Period: Jul 29-31, 2024

Provides:

IA/PA: 3 counties

FCO: William F. Roy



IA/PA



Declaration Requests in Process – 12

State / Tribe / Territory - Incident Description	Туре	IA	PA	НМ	Requested
OH - Train Derailment	DR	Χ	Х	Х	Jul 3, 2023
NY – Severe Storms, Tornadoes, Straight-line Winds, and Flooding	EM		Х		Jul 20
SCA* - Watch Fire	DR	Χ	Х	Х	Aug 16
VT – Severe Storms, Flooding, Landslides, and Mudslides – Approved	DR	Χ	Х	Х	Aug 28
NE – Severe Storms, Straight-line Winds, Tornadoes, and Flooding	DR		Х	Х	Aug 29
MI – Severe Storm and Tornadoes (APPEAL)	DR	Χ		Х	Sep 11
CRST** - Severe Storms, Straight-line Winds, and Flooding	DR	Χ	Х	Х	Sep 12
USVI - Tropical Storm Ernesto	DR		Х	Х	Sep 13
SC – Tropical Storm Debby	DR	Χ	Х	Х	Sep 16
NY - Severe Storms, Straight -Line Winds and Flooding	DR	Χ	Х	Х	Sep 18
AK – Flooding	DR	Χ	Х	Х	Sep 19
HT*** - Flooding	DR	Х	Х	Х	Sep 20
CA - Park Fire and Borel Fire	DR	Х		Х	Sep 24

^{*} San Carlos Apache Tribe, ** Cheyenne River Sioux Tribe, ***Havasupai Tribe



Declaration Requests in Process – 12 (cont.)

State / Tribe / Territory - Incident Description	Туре	IA	PA	НМ	Requested
NC - Hurricane Helene - Approved	EM		Χ		Sep 25
GA - Hurricane Helene - Approved	EM		Х		Sep 24
AL - Hurricane Helene - Approved	EM		Х		Sep 25
SC - Hurricane Helene - Approved	EM		Х		Sep 25



Declaration Amendments

Declaration	Number	Issued	Action
FEMA-3618-EM-AL	1	Sep 26	Adds 32 counties for Public Assistance
FEMA-4806-DR-FL	6	Sep 26	Adds 36 counties for Public Assistance





Helping people before, during, and after disasters.



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